

Dear FCC,

I am a consumer and viewer of digital television, concerned about the slow progress of the transition. One of these problems is the issue of benefit to the consumer. Here the benefits are of two kinds:

1 HDTV

2 multicasting.

I feel strongly stations should be forced to choose one of the above, or a mix and not do 1 stream of SD tv only.

Once a station chooses one of the above, or a mix of the two, the requirements for each can be applied or pro-rated.

For the HDTV stations, the public interest should require much the same as today's analog tv requires, or a bit more improved public interest emphasis.

It would be reasonable to require HDTV to be degraded and a sub-channel of SD

to be used during disasters, and important news, providing better coverage, but

no longer impacting regular programming. This could be extended to full

prime time election coverage to be given to candidates for office, so that

all can have equal time and much good prime time coverage for thier speeches.

Not just political ads!

For stations doing multicasting, I have proposed in docket 00-167 that 2 streams be provided for childrens programming during certain hours.

For other times of day at least 1 of these should be devoted full time to

news, community and world issues, and during elections, full time coverage

of each candidate, providing even more coverage citizens need to make informed decisions. This must include both candidates, and their views,

as well as issues of importance from pollution to world peace and the economy.

A smaller station lacking resoruces, might be allowed to cover the Committee hearings before congress, etc. But this must not become a cheap

way out for every station in an area!

By implementing something like this, the public will be served by the benefits

of digital television.

